

As a Matter of Fact: Vital Statistics at a Glance

Official Name	Red Wolf <i>Canis rufus</i>
Common Name	Red Wolf
<div data-bbox="212 583 488 674" data-label="Section-Header"> <p>Physical Characteristics</p> </div> <div data-bbox="207 724 498 997" data-label="Image"> </div>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Larger than coyotes, smaller than gray wolves • Color varies from dark gray to gray mixed with cinnamon, buff, tan, and black. Often has reddish tinge on ears and legs. • Mature adults weigh from 42 to 84 pounds • Slender body, length of head and body 55-65 inches • Long legs with height at shoulder minimum 27 inches • Ears are longer than a gray wolf's and are held at an angle away from the head • Hind foot length 8 -10 inches from toenail to back of heel pad
<div data-bbox="183 1173 521 1264" data-label="Section-Header"> <p>Behavior, Habitat, and Home Range</p> </div> <div data-bbox="207 1392 498 1774" data-label="Image"> </div>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Range: Originally found from central Texas to Florida; north through the Mississippi River valley to central Illinois and Indiana to Pennsylvania . Presently living in the wild in Alligator River, Mattamuskeet, and Pocosin Lakes National Wildlife Refuges and adjacent private property, and on three islands off the coast of Florida and South Carolina • Habitat: prairies, forests, swamps, farms • Food: Red wolves are carnivores. In northeastern North Carolina, the diet is mostly white-tailed deer, raccoons, rabbits and rodents. They will occasionally eat other items such as insects, grass, and fruit. • Habits: Live in packs or small family groups. Often hunt in pairs or alone. Usually active at dusk, at night, and in early morning, rest during the day. • Breeding: Mating in January and February. One litter per year. Gestation period 63 days. Average litter 4-5 pups born in March or April. Sexual maturity at age 2. • Vocalization: Clear and resonant, not as deep and "chesty" as the howl of the gray wolf.